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NOTES ON THE SHORT STORY

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In a previous article[1] I gave a fairly exhaustive list of volumes of short stories. My purpose here is to supplement that list with a brief classification of short stories for use in the classroom.

To simplify narrative technique drastically, it may be said that a fiction is made up of five ingredients of major importance—plot, character, setting, theme, and mood. Consequently, from the point of view of the reader there may be found in the narrative at least five kinds of interest—interest in plot, interest in character, interest in setting, interest in theme, and interest in mood. Although these interests will all be found in a given fiction in varying degrees, one of them is usually to be felt as the *main* interest, to which all the other interests are subordinate. The reader may, then, for convenience classify stories he reads on the basis of what is to him the *main* interest—calling them stories of plot, stories of character, stories of setting, stories of theme, and stories of mood. A fiction in which the main interest is in plot (and of course the main interest in the majority of short stories is in plot) will be (*a*) a story of dramatic incident, (*b*) a story of plot ingenuity, (*c*) a detective story, or (*d*) a story of problem plot. When the main interest is in character it will be in (*a*) the character as an individual, or in (*b*) the character as a psychological study. If the main interest is in setting it will be in (*a*) the local color used, or in (*b*) the atmosphere the author creates. If the underlying idea of the story becomes the thing of dominant interest, the story is a thematic or didactive story or story of abstract idea. Sometimes the main interest for the reader is in what—for want of a better name—may be called mood. Dominant interest in mood may be found in (*a*) a love story (or story of hate, or revenge, etc.), in (*b*) a story of humor (or tragedy, or pathos), or in (*c*) a story of fantasy.

[1] *English Journal*, May, 1920, pp. 270–83.

Of course no classification can be made arbitrarily for all readers, for no two readers will ever bring to a story quite the same attitude. But a classification that will be that of the average reader may be helpful in presenting the modern writer of short stories at his best in plotting, in character drawing, in the handling of setting, in the development of theme, and in the presentation of a mood. Therefore, recognizing the fact that there is bound to be much overlapping in such a list, I have arranged the following classification for the ready reference of the busy teacher. For information as to titles of volumes in which individual stories may be found, the names of publishers, etc., refer to the list of volumes as given in the *English Journal* for May, 1920. In a few cases where the title of the volume was not given in the previous list the title is given in the present list.

PLOT

a) Dramatic incident

BURKE, THOMAS, "The Chink and the Child," "The Gorilla and the Girl," "The Yellow Scarf" (in *More Limehouse Nights.* Doran).

COBB, IRVIN, "Blacker than Sin" (in *Local Color*), "When August the Second Was April the First" (in *From Place to Place.* Doran), "Double-Barreled Justice" (in *Old Judge Priest.* Doran).

CONRAD, JOSEPH, "The Brute," "The Inn of the Two Witches."

DAVIS, RICHARD HARDING, "Somewhere in France."

FREEMAN, MARY E. WILKINS, "The Revolt of Mother."

GARLAND, HAMLIN, "Under the Lion's Paw."

GELZER, JAY, "The Chinese Lily," "The Gold Lacquered Box," "A Prince of China" (in *The Street of a Thousand Delights.* McBride).

GLASPELL, SUSAN, "A Jury of Her Peers" (in *Best Short Stories of 1917*, edited by O'Brien).

HENRY, O., "A Call Loan," "The Guardian of the Accolade," "A Retrieved Reformation," "A Departmental Case," "A Municipal Report," "The Whirligig of Life."

JACOBS, W. W., "The Bequest," "Fairy Gold," "Friends in Need," "Fine Feathers," "Prize Money," "Self-Help," "The Monkey's Paw."

KIPLING, RUDYARD, "Baa, Baa, Black Sheep," "The Man Who Would Be King," "The Conversion of Aurelian McGoggin," "The Man Who Was."

LONDON, JACK, "The Madness of John Harned," "Under the Deck Awning," "Just Meat."

MÉRIMÉE, PROSPER, "Mateo Falcone."

MORRIS, GOUVERNEUR, "The Execution."
NORRIS, FRANK, "The Third Circle."
PAGE, THOMAS NELSON, "The Outcast."
POE, EDGAR ALLAN, "The Cask of Amontillado," "The Pit and the Pendulum."
PUSHKIN, ALEXANDER, "The Shot."
RINEHART, MARY R., "Clara's Little Escapade," "The Family Friend" (in *Affinities*. Doran).
RUSSELL, JOHN, "The Red Mark," "East of Eastward," "The Lost God," "The Fourth Man" (in *Where the Pavement Ends*. Knopf).
STEELE, WILBUR D., "Ching, Ching, Chinaman" (in *Best Short Stories of 1917*).
STOCKTON, FRANK, "The Remarkable Wreck of the *Thomas Hyke*."
WILLIAMS, JESSE LYNCH, "The Stolen Story."

b) Plot ingenuity and surprise

ALDRICH, THOMAS BAILEY, "Marjorie Daw."
BARBOUR, R. H., and OSBOURNE, "Thicker than Water" (in *Short Stories from "Life,"* edited by Thomas L. Masson).
BURKE, THOMAS, "Katie the Kid," "Blue-Bell," "The Perfect Girl," "A Game of Poker" (in *More Limehouse Nights*. Doran).
CHEKHOV, ANTON, "A Work of Art."
CHILD, RICHARD WASHBURN, "Identified," "The Cracking Knee," "Foxed" (in *The Velvet Black*. Dutton).
COBB, IRVIN, "An Occurrence Up a Side Street."
DOYLE, A. CONAN, "How It Happened."
GREENE, FREDERICK S., "The Cat of the Cane-Brake" (in *Best Short Stories of 1916*), "The Bunker Mouse" (in *Best Short Stories of 1917*).
HENRY, O., "October and June," "The Gift of the Magi," "The Love Philtre of Ikey Schoenstein," "Thimble, Thimble."
INGALLS, R., "Business and Ethics" (in *Short Stories from "Life"* edited by Thomas L. Masson).
MAUPASSANT, GUY DE, "The Necklace."
MORLEY, CHRISTOPHER, "Advice to the Lovelorn," "The Commutation Chophouse" (in *Tales from a Rolltop Desk*. Doubleday).
POST, MELVILLE D., "The Laughter of Allah" (in *The Mystery at the Blue Villa*. Appleton).
RUSSELL, JOHN, "The Red Mark," "The Practicing of Christopher," "The Price of the Head" (in *Where the Pavement Ends*. Knopf).
WILLIAMS, BEN, "They Grind Exceeding Small" (in *Prize Stories: 1919*. Doubleday).

c) Detective and mystery

CHESTERTON, G. K., *The Innocence of Father Brown*, *The Wisdom of Father Brown*.

CRABB, ARTHUR, "Among Gentlemen," "A Story Apropos," "Juror No. 5" (in *Samuel Lyle, Criminologist.* Century).

DOYLE, A. CONAN, "The Dancing Men," "The Northwood Builder," "The Dying Detective," "Silver Blaze," "The Red-Headed League," "The Speckled Band," "A Scandal in Bohemia."

PERTWEE, ROLAND, "The Seven Khang-he Vases," "The Cellini Salt-Cellar" (in *The Transactions of Lord Louis Lewis.* Dodd, Mead).

POE, EDGAR ALLAN, "The Gold-Bug," "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," "The Purloined Letter."

POST, MELVILLE D., "The Doomdorf Mystery," "An Act of God," "The Straw Man," "The Adopted Daughter"; "The Mystery at the Blue Villa" (in volume of same title. Appleton); "The Thing on the Hearth," "The Cambered Foot," "The Wrong Sign" (in *The Sleuth of St. James' Square.* Appleton).

d) Problem plot

ALSOP, G. F., "The Kitchen Gods" (in *Prize Stories of 1919.* Doubleday).

BALZAC, HONORE DE, "La Grande Breteche," "The Executioner."

BURT, MAXWELL S., "A Cup of Tea," "The Water Hole."

COPPÉE, FRANÇOIS, "The Substitute."

DAVIS, RICHARD HARDING, "The Other Woman."

DWIGHT, H. G., "In the Pasha's Garden."

FERBER, EDNA, "The Woman Who Tried to Be Good."

FOOTE, JOHN T., "The Bolters."

GARLAND, HAMLIN, "A Branch Road," "Up the Coolly."

GEROULD, KATHERINE, "Vain Oblations;" and "The Knight's Move" (in *Best Short Stories of 1917*).

HALÉVY, LUDOVIC, "The Insurgent."

HERRICK, ROBERT, "The Master of the Inn."

LAGERLOF, SELMA, "The Girl from Marsh Croft."

LONDON, JACK, "A Day's Lodging," "The Kanaka Surf."

MORRIS, GOUVERNEUR, "You Can't Get Away with It," "The Claws of the Tiger."

STOCKTON, FRANK, "The Lady or the Tiger?"

WHARTON, EDITH, "The Duchess at Prayer," "Ethan Frome."

CHARACTER

a) Individual

ALLEN, JAMES LANE, "Old King Solomon of Kentucky."

ANDREWS, MARY S., "The Perfect Tribute."

AUMONIER, STACY, "The Friends" (in volume of same title. Century).

BARRIE, JAMES M., "The Inconsiderate Waiter."

CANFIELD, DOROTHY, "The Bedquilt."

COBB, IRVIN, "Quality Folks" (in *From Place to Place.* Doran); "The Smart Aleck," "The Great Auk" (in *Local Color.* Doran).

COLCHORD, LINCOLN, "The Game of Life and Death."
COPPÉE, FRANÇOIS, "The Captain's Vices."
DAUDET, ALPHONSE, "The Siege of Berlin," "The Last Class."
DAVIS, RICHARD HARDING, "The Consul."
FERBER, EDNA, "Old Lady Mandle," and "The Maternal Feminine" (in *Half Portions*. Doubleday); "The Gay Old Dog."
FREEMAN, MARY E. WILKINS, "The Revolt of Mother."
GALSWORTHY, John, "Quality" (in *The Inn of Tranquillity*. Scribner's).
GARLAND, HAMLIN, "Black Ephram," "Lucretia Burns."
JAMES, HENRY, "The Real Thing."
JEWETT, SARAH O., "The Queen's Twin."
KIPLING, RUDYARD, "Baa, Baa, Black Sheep," "A Second-Rate Woman," "A Bank Fraud."
LONDON, JACK, "Samuel."
MAUPASSANT, GUY DE, "La Mère Sauvage," "Two Friends;" "A Vendetta" (in *Love and Other Stories*. Boni).
MORRIS, GOUVERNEUR, "Simon L'Ouvrier."
PERTWEE, ROLAND, "The Big Chance," "The Eliphalet Touch" (in *The Old Card*. Boni).
SMITH, F. HOPKINSON, "Colonel Carter of Cartersville" (volume of same title. Scribner's); "Plain Fin, Paper Hanger" (in *The Under Dog*. Scribner's).
STEVENSON, ROBERT LOUIS, "A Lodging for the Night."
TARBELL, IDA M., "He Knew Lincoln."
TARKINGTON, BOOTH, "The Beautiful Lady."
TURGENEV, IVAN, "The Jew"; "A Lear of the Steppes" (in volume of same title. Macmillan).
VAN LOAN, CHARLES E., "Scrap Iron" (in *Taking the Count*. Doran); "Mister Conley," "The Squirrel" (in *Score by Innings*. Doran).

b) Psychological

BURNET, DANA, "Rain" (in *The Grim 13*, edited by F. S. Greene).
COBB, IRVIN, "The Belled Buzzard," "The Gallowsmith" (in *From Place to Place*. Doran).
DOBIE, CHARLES C., "Laughter" (in *Best Short Stories of 1917*), "The Open Window" (in *Best Short Stories of 1918*).
LEWIS, SINCLAIR, "The Willow Walk" (in *Best Short Stories of 1918*).
MAUPASSANT, GUY DE, "The Coward," "A Piece of String."
POE, EDGAR ALLAN, "The Tell-Tale Heart," "The Black Cat."
STEELE, WILBUR D., "Land's End."
STEVENSON, ROBERT LOUIS, "Markheim," "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."

SETTING

a) Local color

ATHERTON, GERTRUDE, "The Ears of Twenty Americans."
BARRIE, JAMES, "The Courting of T'nowhead's Bell," "How Gavin Birse Put It to Mag Lownie."

BERCOVICI, KONRAD, "Ghitza," "Vlad's Son," "The Law of the Lawless," "Yancu Lautaru" (in *Ghitza and Other Romances of Gypsy Blood.* Boni).

BROWN, ALICE, "A Day Off" (in *The Country Road.* Houghton).

CABLE, GEORGE, "Posson Jone," "Père Raphael."

CONNOLLY, JAMES B., "The Trawler."

CONRAD, JOSEPH, "The Heart of Darkness."

CRADDOCK, CHARLES EGBERT, "The Dancin' Party at Harrison's Cove," "Drifting Down Lone Creek."

FERBER, EDNA, "April 25th, as Usual" (in *Half Portions.* Doubleday).

FOX, JOHN, "The Courtship of Allaphir," "The Lord's Own Level," "The Battle Prayer of Parson Small" (in *In Happy Valley.* Scribner).

FREEMAN, MARY E. WILKINS, "A New England Nun," "A Humble Romance," "The Village Singer."

GELZER, JAY, "In the Street of a Thousand Delights," "The Gorgeous Jest," "Mei-Li the Beautiful" (in *The Street of a Thousand Delights.* McBride).

HARTE, BRET, "The Luck of Roaring Camp," "The Outcasts of Poker Flat," "Tennessee's Partner."

HICHENS, ROBERT, "The Nomad" (in *Snake-Bite.* Dodd, Mead).

JEWETT, SARAH ORNE, "A White Heron," "Marsh Rosemary."

KIPLING, RUDYARD, "An Habitation Enforced," "The Incarnation of Krishna Mulvaney," "Without Benefit of Clergy."

LONDON, JACK, "On the Makaloa Mat," "Mauki," "A Son of the Sun."

MARTIN, HELEN, "The Betrothal of Elypholate," "The Conversation of Elviny," "Ellie's Furnishings," "Mrs. Holzapple's Convictions."

MORRISON, ARTHUR, "On the Stairs."

PAGE, THOMAS NELSON, "Marse Chan," "Meh Lady."

WIGGIN, KATE DOUGLAS, "The Old Peabody Pew" (volume of same title. Houghton).

b) Atmosphere

ABDULLAH, ACHMED, "A Simple Act of Piety" (in *The Honorable Gentleman.* Putnam).

BLACKWOOD, ALGERNON, *Day and Night Stories.*

CHILD, RICHARD WASHBURN, "The Velvet Black" (in volume of same title. Dutton).

CONRAD, JOSEPH, "The Heart of Darkness."

DOYLE, A. CONAN, "The Horror of the Heights."

JAMES, HENRY, "The Turn of the Screw."

KIPLING, RUDYARD, "They."

LONDON, JACK, "The White Silence," "To Build a Fire," "The Red One."

NORRIS, FRANK, "A Memorandum of Sudden Death."

POE, EDGAR ALLAN, "The Fall of the House of Usher," "The Masque of the Red Death."

STEELE, WILBUR D., "The Yellow Cat" (in *Best Short Stories of 1915*).

THEME

COBB, IRVIN, "The Thunders of Silence" (in *From Place to Place.* Doran).
DAUDET, ALPHONSE, "The Last Class."
DELAND, MARGARET, "Good for the Soul," "The Harvest of Fear."
EDWARDS, HARRY S., "The Answer" (*Short Stories from "Life,"* edited by Thomas L. Masson).
FERBER, EDNA, "Personality Plus."
GEROULD, KATHERINE, "The Dominant Strain," "The Great Tradition."
HALE, EDWARD E., "The Man without a Country."
HAWTHORNE, NATHANIEL, "The Birthmark," "Dr. Heidegger's Experiment," "The Great Stone Face," "Feathertop," "The Ambitious Guest."
HENRY, O., "The Unfinished Story," "Roads of Destiny."
HERRICK, ROBERT, "The Master of the Inn."
HURST, FANNIE, "Bitter-Sweet," "Hers Not to Reason Why,"
KAHLER, HUGH, "The Obligee," "Babel," "Wild Carrot," "The Buck-passer" (in *Babel.* Putnam).
KIPLING, RUDYARD, "A Second-Rate Woman," "The Man Who Was."
LONDON, JACK, "The Law of Life," "The Faith of Men," "The Love of Life," "When God Laughs," "South of the Slot."
POST, MELVILLE D., "The Stolen Life" (in *The Mystery at the Blue Villa.* Appleton).
SHORE, VIOLA B., "The Heritage" (in volume of same title. Doran).
SMITH, F. HOPKINSON, "Bud Tilden: Mail Thief," "The Crime of Samanthy North," "Eleven Months and Ten Days" (in *The Under Dog.* Scribner's).
STEELE, WILBUR D., "The Dark Hour" (in *Best Short Stories of 1918*).
TOLSTOI, LEO, "Where Love Is God Is," "How Much Land Does a Man Need?"
VAN DYKE, HENRY, "The Other Wise Man," "The Lost Word."

MOOD

a) Love

ASHE, ELIZABETH, "The Glory-Box" (in *Atlantic Narratives*, Vol. I, edited by Charles S. Thomas).
BERCOVICI, KONRAD, "Fanutza," "Tinka," "Vahde, the Proud One" (in *Ghitza and Other Romances of Gypsy Blood.* Boni).
BUNNER, H. C., "A Sisterly Scheme," "Love Letters of Smith."
CANFIELD, DOROTHY, "A Thread without a Knot" (in *The Real Motive.* Holt).
CHAMBERS, ROBERT W., "Blue Bird Weather," "The Progress of Janet," "Owl's Head," "Demoiselle D'Ys," "The Tree of Dreams."
CONNOLLY, JAMES B., "Peter Stops Ashore."

DAVIS, RICHARD HARDING, "The Red Cross Girl."
FITZGERALD, F. SCOTT, "The Off-Shore Pirate" (in *Flappers and Philosophers*. Scribner's).
FOOTE, JOHN TAINTOR, "Augusta's Bridge," "Opus 43, No. 6."
FOX, JOHN, JR., "A Mountain Europa."
FREEMAN, MARY E. WILKINS, "Amarina's Roses," "Willow-Ware," "A Humble Romance," "The Joy of Youth."
GALE, ZONA, *Friendship Village Love Stories*.
GARLAND, HAMLIN, "William Bacon's Hired Man," "A Stop-Over in Tyre," "Among the Corn Rows," "The Spirit of Sweetwater," "The Cow-Boss," "The Remittance Man."
GELZER, JAY, "The Blue Eyes of Wang Hai" (in *The Street of a Thousand Delights*. McBride).
HALÉVY, LUDOVIC, "The Abbé Constantine."
HEMENWAY, HETTY, "Four Days."
HENRY, O., "The Best Seller," "Hearts and Crosses."
HOPE, ANTHONY, "The Philosopher of the Apple Orchard."
HURST, FANNIE, "Sea Gullibles," "Other People's Shoes," "Power and Horsepower," "T. B."
KIPLING, RUDYARD, "The Courting of Dinah Shadd," "The Brushwood Boy."
MAUPASSANT, GUY DE, "In the Moonlight."
MORRIS, GOUVERNEUR, "Legay Pelham's Protégé," "MacTavish,"
PERTWEE, ROLAND, "Red and White" (in *Great Modern English Stories*, edited by Edward J. O'Brien. Boni).
RINEHART, MARY R., "Twenty-Two," "The Miracle," "Jane" (in *Love Stories*. Doran).
SMITH, F. HOPKINSON, "The Veiled Lady of Stamboul" (in *The Veiled Lady*. Scribner's).
STEELE, WILBUR D., "Down on Their Knees," "White Horse Winter."
STEVENSON, ROBERT L., "Sire de Maletroit's Door."
TARKINGTON, BOOTH, "Monsieur Beaucaire."
WEBSTER, HENRY K., "Heart of Gold."
WHITMAN, STEPHEN FRENCH, "The Last Room of All" (in *Prize Stories of 1920*).
ZANGWILL, ISRAEL, "The Rose of the Ghetto."

b) Humor

BACON, JOSEPHINE DASKAM, "The Madness of Philip" (in volume of same title. Doubleday).
BUTLER, ELLIS P., "Pigs Is Pigs."
CHEKHOV, ANTON, "A Work of Art," "The Scandal Monger."
COBB, IRVIN, "The Bull Called Emily" (in *From Place to Place*. Doran); "The Life of the Party" (in volume of same title. Doran).

COHEN, OCTAVUS ROY, "Tempus Fugits," "Not Wisely but Too Well," "The Fight that Failed" (in *Come Seven.* Dodd).

DOYLE, A. CONAN, "How the Brigadier Slew the Fox."

GLASS, MONTAGUE, "Object: Matrimony" (in volume of same title. Doubleday).

HENRY, O., "The Handbook of Hymen," "Pimienta Pancakes," "The Lonesome Road," "Next to Reading Matter," "Let Me Feel Your Pulse," "October and June," "A Harlem Tragedy," "The Ransom of Red Chief."

JACOBS, W. W., "The Third String," "Blundell's Improvement," "The Money-Box," "His Other Self," "The Weaker Vessel," "A Black Affair," "The Lady of the Barge," "Bob's Redemption," "The Boatswain's Mate."

JEWETT, SARAH ORNE, "Fame's Little Day."

LEFÈVRE, EDWIN, "A Woman and Her Bonds."

LONDON, JACK, "When Alice Told Her Soul," "Like Argus of the Ancient Time."

NOYES, ALFRED, "Uncle Hyacinth."

PAIN, BARRY, "Sparkling Burgundy."

PEPLE, EDWARD, "A Night Out" (in volume of same title. Moffat).

RINEHART, MARY R., "Twenty-Three and a Half Hours' Leave" (in volume of same title. Doran).

SHORE, VIOLA, "We Can't Afford It" (in *Heritage.* Doran).

STOCKTON, FRANK, "The Transferred Ghost."

STUART, RUTH MCENERY, "The Second Wooing of Salina Sue."

TARKINGTON, BOOTH, "'Little Gentleman,'" "Tar" (in *Penrod.* Doubleday).

TWAIN, MARK, "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Caleveras County," "The Man That Corrupted Hadleyburg."

WEBSTER, HENRY K., "How to Appreciate Henry."

WHITE, WILLIAM ALLEN, "The Passing of Priscilla Winthrop" (in *In Our Town*), "'While the Evil Days Come Not,'" "The King of Boyville."

WIGGIN, KATE DOUGLAS, "The Green Isle" (in *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*).

WISTER, OWEN, "Happy Teeth," "Philosophy Four."

WODEHOUSE, P. G., "A Letter from Father," and "Doing Father a Bit of Good"; "The Growing Boy" and "Washy Steps into the Hall of Fame"; "The Wigmore Venus" and "The Tale of a Grandfather" (in *The Indiscretions of Archie.* Doran).

c) Fantasy

ABDULLAH, ACHMED, "Tartar" (in *Wings.* McCann).

ANDREWS, MARY SHIPMAN, "The Fifth of October."

BIERCE, AMBROSE, "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge."

CHAMBERS, ROBERT W., "Demoiselle D'Ys," "The Carpet of Belshazzar," "The Golden Pool," "The Maker of Dreams."
GAUTIER, THEOPHILE, "The Mummy's Foot."
GEROULD, KATHERINE, "On the Stair-Case" (in *Vain Oblations*).
HARDY, THOMAS, "The Withered Arm."
HAWTHORNE, NATHANIEL, "Rappaccini's Daughter."
HENRY, O., "The Furnished Room."
HICHENS, ROBERT, "A Tribute of Souls," "The Charmer of Snakes."
JACOBS, W. W., "The Toll-House," "The Monkey's Paw."
KIPLING, RUDYARD, "The Mark of the Beast."
LONDON, JACK, "The Unparalleled Invasion."
MÉRIMÉE, PROSPER, "The Venus of Ille."
MORRIS, GOUVERNEUR, "The Incandescent Lily," "Back There in the Grass."
O'BRIEN, FITZ, "The Diamond Lens," "What Was It? A Mystery."
PAGE, THOMAS NELSON, "The Stranger's Pew."
PAIN, BARRY, "Exchange," "The Glass of Supreme Moments."
POE, EDGAR ALLAN, "Ligeia," "The Masque of the Red Death."
PUSHKIN, ALEXANDER, "The Queen of Spades."
STEVENSON, ROBERT L., "The Bottle Imp."
VAN DYKE, HENRY, "The Night Call."
WELLS, H. G., "The Stolen Bacillus," "The Strange Orchid" (in *Thirty Strange Stories*. Harper).